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Executive Secretary
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

MAY 10 1982

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

FROM: Bo Denysyk
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration

SUBJECT: Intelligence Support Required to Perform Case Studies for COCOM Negotiations in Microelectronics

Studies and analyses over the past five years have conclusively demonstrated that multilateral controls by COCOM over the export of Western microelectronic technology to the Communist Bloc is absolutely essential to Western security. The April 1982 unclassified intelligence report, "Soviet Acquisition of Western Technology" highlights this issue. It states specifically that Western equipment and technology have played a very important, if not crucial role in the advancement of Soviet microelectronics production capabilities, permitting them to build a modern microelectronics industry which will considerably enhance the sophistication of future Soviet military systems for decades.

There are innumerable examples of Soviet application of Western microelectronic technology in the design and production of integrated circuits and microelectronic devices for their military. For instance, analyses of Soviet microelectronic devices have clearly shown that they are copies of Western designs and production techniques.

It is also well known that the USSR has been executing a carefully planned program to gain access to Western critical design and production technologies in an effort to upgrade their own technologies. Using both legal and illegal methods they have been acquiring "keystone" design and manufacturing equipment; "keystone" materials; and critical know-how. Their methods of acquisition include the legal purchase of technology, the theft of technical data, the transfer of technology through scientific and technical exchange programs, including university study programs, student exchanges, scientific conferences, and publication in the open literature of critical know-how.

A U.S. Technical Task Group (TTG-F, "Semiconductors, Their Materials and Manufacturing Equipment") has drafted new U.S. proposals to the COCOM control list in an effort to tighten controls over the export of these critical technologies. While there is, in our minds, enough technical justification to support these proposals, it is extremely difficult to convince other COCOM members of the linkage of this technology transfer to enhanced Soviet military capability.

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Therefore, there is a crucial need for an interagency project, headed by your agency, to analyze USSR microelectronic devices and to identify the sources that have contributed to the know how and production of such devices. We need to trace the sources of the technology transfer which have enhanced Soviet microelectronics production capability. Only after we are armed with such information can the U.S. convince other COCOM members of the need for tightened controls.

I therefore request that you give the highest priority and support to the formation of this interagency project. Case studies should be made to determine the chain of events leading to transfer of technology, i.e., starting with data collection and technology transfer to the East Bloc, through to the production of known Soviet microelectronic devices and their use in identified Soviet military applications.

I would strongly recommend that the group of microelectronic technical experts from the STIC working group that produced the outstanding TTG-F intelligence support study be tasked to plan and direct this effort. Because of the extremely tight schedule connected with the COCOM List Review, a three month project commencing in May and ending in August is required.

Your personal support of, and assignation of the requisite priority level to, this important project would be greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any furter information.

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